

*A1*  
 a body for attachment to the siding strip for at least partially covering the exposed portion of the wall, said body including an integral fastener for engaging the first receiver in the siding strip and an opening having a predetermined shape and size for receiving the first portion of the utility-related structure.

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 2. (Amended) The component according to claim 1, wherein an engagement surface surrounds the opening in the body, said engagement surface being substantially planar for at least partially engaging a second portion of the utility-related structure, said structure comprising a mounting tab for a socket, a face plate, or a cover.

3. (Amended) The component according to claim 1, wherein an engagement surface surrounds the opening in the body, said engagement surface being substantially parallel to the wall for at least partially engaging a second portion of the utility-related structure, said structure comprising a mounting tab for a socket, a face plate, or a cover.

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 5. (Amended) The component according to claim 1, wherein the body further includes at least one hole adjacent to the opening for receiving a non-integral fastener for assisting in securing a second utility-related structure, said structure comprising a face plate or cover, to the body.

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 12. (Amended) In a siding system including at least one siding strip having a profile that is outwardly bowed to simulate the appearance of a log or timber, said siding strip partially covering an external wall of a building or dwelling, a component for intended use in covering at least an exposed portion of the wall a utility-related structure, said siding system comprising:

a body for attachment to the siding strip for at least partially covering the exposed portion of the wall, said body also having a profile that is outwardly bowed relative to a vertical

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plane to simulate the appearance of a log or timber and an opening having a predetermined shape and size for receiving the utility-related structure.

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15. (Amended) A siding system for at least partially covering an external wall of a dwelling or building and receiving a portion of a utility-related structure, said siding system comprising:

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at least one siding strip fastened to and covering at least a portion of the wall, said siding strip including at least one receiver;

a component for attachment adjacent to the siding strip for covering at least a portion of the wall left exposed by the at least one siding strip, said component including an integral fastener for engaging the receiver of the at least one siding strip and an opening having a predetermined size and shape for receiving the utility-related structure.

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19. (Amended) A method for at least partially covering an external wall of a building or dwelling and assisting in supporting a utility-related structure adjacent to a siding strip including a first receiver, comprising in any order:

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securing a component adjacent to the siding strip by placing a first integral fastener of the component in the first receiver of the siding strip, said component at least partially covering an exposed portion of the wall;

forming an opening having a predetermined shape and size in the component for receiving a first portion of the utility-related structure; and  
passing the first portion of the utility-related structure through the opening.

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